

ST GEORGE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr M. Braund

24.04.19

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I am pleased to tell you that your child has volunteered to join our 'Mini Vinnies' group. This is an important responsibility in our school and I am very proud that your child has volunteered. He/she will need encouragement and support from you at home. Please see the reverse of the sheet for more information.

Once the group has been established, we shall be meeting regularly on a **Thursday lunchtime**. We will arrange the meetings around hot lunches and sandwiches so they will not go hungry! Our meetings will probably be every week initially, but then may reduce to every few weeks. We will also be supported by the Parish St. Vincent de Paul Society and a representative from the Society will be present at some of our meetings.

There has been a lot of interest in the Mini Vinnies group, so if your child is not chosen initially, I will swap the groups **each term** to allow **all the children** who have volunteered to attend. The first group meeting will be next Thursday (2nd May).

This is an exciting venture for our children and school. We will be part of a National and International Society that helps those less fortunate than ourselves.

I would be grateful if you could return the slip below to indicate that you agree to your child becoming a 'Mini Vinnie', and that you will support him/her at home.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Rolf

Mini Vinnies Group

Child's name:

☐ My child understands that he/she is taking on the responsibilities of a Mini Vinnie and is committed to this.

I/We are willing to support and encourage him/her at home

Parent's signature:

Date:

Info sheet for parents

learn all about Mini Vinnies...

What is Mini Vinnies?

'Mini Vinnies' is a St Vincent de Paul Group in a Primary School. It is a group of young people aged 7-11 who get together, organise and talk about helping others in need within their school community and beyond. What makes Mini Vinnies such a valuable experience for the children who are part of it, is the change it makes in school communities. Mini Vinnies' groups usually meet once a week or fortnight during lunchtime or after school and are either run by school staff members, an SVP Conference Member or a combination of both.

What happens at a Mini Vinnies' meeting?

A 'President' is elected by the Mini Vinnies to lead the meeting and organise the group. An adult will co-ordinate the group and give help and practical advice. Meetings should be as brief as possible.

- The President opens the meeting with a prayer.
- A short spiritual reading/reflection/piece of music/meditation follows. The Group members could take turns to do this.
- Group members then talk about the Mini Vinnies' activities they have done since the previous meeting.
- Any future plans are then discussed.
- The President concludes the meeting with a prayer.